

THE KABUL TIMES

www.thekabultimes.com twitter.com/thekabultimes info@thekabultimes.com facebook.com/thekabultimes

Founded in 1962 Dalwa 16-1403 Tuesday 04 February 2025 INo: 266-Vol: LXII DAILY

Kabul 03° Sunny | Kandahar 13° Cloudy | Herat 9° Sunny | Jalalabad 17° Sunny | Mazar-e-Sharif 9° Cloudy | Bamyan -8° Sunny



Condolence message of the Islamic Emirate regarding the martyrdom of the leaders of the Hamas Movement in Palestine, in general, the martyrs of the resistance

The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan extends its profound condolences and deepest sympathies to the leadership of the Hamas Islamic Movement, the families of all martyrs, the Mujahideen, and the entire Palestinian nation on the martyrdom of the head of Hamas' military wing, Mohammed Al-Deif, along with several other leaders and, more broadly, all Palestinian Mujahideen martyrs.

These figures of the Islamic Resistance Movement have left behind a formidable legacy of steadfast resistance against the Zionist occupation, one that will stand as a lasting testament to honor, courage, resilience, and an unwavering commitment to the struggle for Palestine's independence for generations to come. As always, we reaffirm our conviction that the jihadi struggle does not diminish with martyrdom; rather, it gains strength and accelerates toward its ultimate objective. The Palestinian cause has once again garnered substantial global attention due to the sacrifices of these high-ranking leaders and all martyrs of the resistance. Furthermore, as a direct consequence of these sacrifices, the Hamas Islamic Movement has ascended to even greater strength and influence than before, both in political and military spheres.

Journalists should consider journalism ethics, media standards, minister



KABUL: The acting Minister of Information and Culture, Mullah Khairullah Khairkhwa, said Monday that journalists should consider journalistic ethics and media standards in news publications.

Khairkhwa made the remarks during the ministry's leadership meeting which was attended by deputy ministers and directors of the Ministry of Information and Culture, the ministry said in a statement. The participants discussed various issues including the publication of false rumors and unreliable information by some biased people and media, the statement said. Speaking at the meeting, Khairkhwa urged all parties and journalists to consider journalistic ethics and media standards in the news publication so that no one publishes anything that contradicts national and international press standards.

The Kabul Times

Committee appointed for principled use, stabilization of words, terms

KABUL: The meeting of the Evaluation Commission of Media Violations was held with the Deputy Minister of Information and Culture for Publication Affairs, Mawlavi Hayatullah Muhajer Farahi, on the chair, to appoint a committee for the principled use and stabilization of words and terms in the country, the ministry said in a statement Monday.

To stabilize and strengthen the national and Islamic identity during the media publications, a committee was appointed for the principled use and stabilization of words, terms and nicknames, the statement said.



Mawlavi Farahi appreciated the efforts and activities of the media in reflecting the achievements of the Islamic Emirate to the people and added that the ministry has always been committed to supporting media. The meeting discussed various media-related issues, including two complaints from Lawang and Naw-e-Zan radio stations, the statement added.

According to the statement, the Afghan Journalists Association has also shared the problems of media employees with the commission.

Six other issues have also been comprehensively discussed, and necessary decisions were made in this regard.

The Kabul Times

Fistula Surgery Ward opened within Nangarhar Hospital

KABUL: The Ministry of Public Health of the Islamic Emirate said on Monday that a Fistula Surgery Ward worth $25,000 has been inaugurated at Nangarhar Regional Specialization Hospital.

The unit, funded by Cure Hospital and Be Team International Organization, will improve care for fistula patients in the province, the statement said.

Meanwhile, the provincial Public Health Director, Aminullah Sharif, thanked both organizations for their partnership, calling it a major benefit for the Eastern Zone's population.

It should be said that the ministry of the public health of the Islamic Emirate in cooperation with the donor institutions has so far reconstructed and renovated hundreds of health facilities in various provinces of the country and is making efforts to construct and renovate more health centers nationwide. **The Kabul Times**



Afghanistan's trade with central Asian countries reaches $1.696 billion in 10 months

KABUL: The Ministry of Industry and Commerce spokesman Akhundzada Abdul Salam Jawad said the other day that the country's trade with five Central Asian countries had reached $1.696 billion within 10 months of the outgoing solar year.

According to him, $112 million of this amount consists of exports, while $1.584 billion accounts for imports.

"Trade between Afghanistan and the Central Asian countries including Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Turkmenistan continued normally over the past ten months of the solar year 1403, reaching a total value of $1.696 billion, of which $112 million were exports and $1.584 billion were imports," said the spokesperson.

Afghanistan's exports to these countries included fresh and dried fruits, various juices, talc stones, and agricultural products such as asafetida (hing), potatoes, and onions.

In return, Afghanistan imported electricity, fuel, wheat flour, cooking oil, raw materials for factories, chemical fertilizers, and cement from Central Asian countries.



According to statistics, Afghanistan's total trade value in 2024 amounted to $12.422 billion, with $1.803 billion in exports and $10.619 billion in imports. Previously, the ministry also announced that trade between Afghanistan and India reached $763 million in the past 10 months of the current solar year.

The Kabul Times

ARCS introduces 28 children with congenital heart defects to Kabul hospitals

KABUL: At least 28 kids with heart holes congenital heart defects (CHDs) have been introduced to six private hospitals for treatment in Kabul, the Afghan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) said in a statement on its X account Monday.

The children's treatment expenses will be covered by the Afghan Red Crescent Society, said the statement.

This move underscores ARCS's ongoing commitment to addressing healthcare needs within the community. In previous efforts, the society has facilitated the treatment of children with similar conditions, both domestically and abroad.

The organization aims to improve the quality of life for these patients, ensuring they receive the necessary medical attention to treat their heart conditions. With this latest referral, ARCS continues to play a vital role in enhancing healthcare access for vulnerable populations in Afghanistan.

A few days ago, 24 kids with heart holes (ventricular septal defect) were also introduced to seven private hospitals for treatment in Kabul.



The Afghan Red Crescent Society has treated over 3,150 children with heart holes over the past three years.

The Kabul Times

MoU signed to provide deserving families with emergency assistance in Kandahar



KABUL: Mullah Nooruddin Turabi, head of Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) valued at 29.7 million Afghani with Mohammad Noman Quraishi, the representative of a humanitarian institution, to provide thousands of needy families with emergency assistance in Kandahar province, ANDMA said in a statement the other day.

Based on the Memorandum of Understanding, in case of natural disasters, deserving people will be provided with assistance in the districts of Kandahar province, the statement said.

Previously, various MoUs have been signed between the Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA) and a number of domestic and international institutions to provide cash and non-cash assistance for deserving families in some provinces of the country.

The Kabul Times

Herat exports pistachio worth $24.6m this solar year

KABUL: The Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the country's western province of Herat said Monday that pistachios worth 24.6 million U.S. dollars have been exported from the province to the world markets within 9 months of the outgoing solar year.

Director of the provincial Chamber of Commerce and Industry Mohammad Yousuf Amin said that tons of pistachios worth 24.6 million U.S. dollars have been exported within 9 months of this year, showing a 20 percent increase comparing the previous year.

According to him, pistachio exports from Herat last year amounted to $20.382 million. He added that the total value of exports from Herat in the past nine months has reached $119.032 million, including agricultural products, dried fruits, minerals, and precious stones. The mountainous districts of Herat, including Kushk-e-Robot Sangi, Kushk-e-Kohna, Khohsan, Adraskan, and Shindand, are home to vast forests of pistachio trees. **The Kabul Times**



International-Daily
WWW.TheKabulTimes.com
Uzair Baryalay, Director of Govt. Dailies
Email: Atvaishan@gmail.com
Editor-in-Chief, Nik Mohammad Nikmal
Email: Nikmal@TheKabulTimes.com
Mob: (+93)700 208 103
Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Fathulbari Akhgar
Mob: (+93)748 076 223
Distribution: 0202 312 509-(+93)766 044 966-(+93)707 005 865
Graphic designers: Baktash Shiabani, Ali and Habibullah Aiman
Translators: Abdul Baqi Haqyar, Noor Ahmad and Hamid Jhwok
Cartoonist: Sayed Hassan Samedi
Address: 8th PD, Olympic Square, East of Chaman-e-Huzori, Kabul, Afghanistan

Food for thought

Today's generation guarantees our bright future

Afghan migrants victims of unfair policies

Afghan refugees are rapidly being expelled by police officials from Iran and Pakistan. Even, police do not spare efforts to arrest and deport documented refugees from their countries.

Report quoting the Iranian Minister of Interior, Eskandar Momeni, as saying that over one million Afghan refugees have been deported from his country since the beginning of this solar year.

In addition, the Iranian government has restricted visa issuance for Afghans trying to enter the neighboring country, and continues efforts to close borders to prevent the entry of undocumented migrants into the country as the officials say Iran has no longer "the capacity to host Afghan refugees."

The Iranian officials have recently imposed stricter measures on the Afghan refugees living in that country as, according to them, around 1.1 million people have been transferred just this year. They have also reduced the number of visas.

The Afghan refugees situation has not only concerned themselves, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Pakistan has also expressed concern about the situation of Afghan migrants in that country and has requested clarification on the recent decision of the Pakistani government about them.

On the other hand, the Prime Minister of Pakistan had previously said that holders of the "Afghan Citizen Card" (ACC) must immediately leave Islamabad and Rawalpindi and return to Afghanistan along with undocumented refugees.

This is a clear fact that the Pakistani and Iranian governments are using migration issues as a political tool to reach their goals. Issues of TTP and water right respectively in Pakistan and Iran have still remained as dilemmas between the two sides.

The neighboring Pakistan should know that there are no TTP members nor any other insurgent groups in Afghanistan. On the other hand, the issue of the Iranian water right has repeatedly been discussed with the Islamic Emirate authorities. These two issues should not be linked with migration.

All these problems can be addressed through diplomatic channels. While the challenges faced by Afghan refugees; their arrest and deportation from the two countries are deeply regrettable, particularly during the current harsh winter.

These bilateral problems should be resolved through diplomatic channels, and the Afghan refugees should not be used as political means for the two neighboring countries, where hundreds of thousands of Afghan refugees are settled.

Rise in traffic accidents sparks public concern

In Afghanistan, the rise in traffic accidents has become a serious concern, as nearly 4,000 accidents were reported in the past ten months, leading to over 2,000 deaths.



The Traffic Directorate and the Ministry of Interior data for the year 1402 reveal a total of 5,520 accidents, with many involving high-speed vehicles, motorcycles, trucks, and passenger buses.

The primary locations for these accidents are the southwestern highways and the Kabul-North route. This situation calls for urgent intervention to improve road safety, traffic management, and public awareness. The root causes of these accidents are multifaceted. Reckless driving, illegal overtaking, speeding, driving under the influence of drugs, and using mobile phones while driving contribute significantly to accidents. Poor road conditions, damage from roadside explosions, lack of adequate traffic signage, and weak enforcement of traffic laws also play a major role in these incidents. The absence of proper supervision of vehicles, especially passenger buses, further exacerbates the problem. To address these critical issues, Afghanistan needs to implement a comprehensive strategy that focuses on both infrastructure and behavioral change. One of the first priorities should be improving road infrastructure. Many of Afghanistan's roads are in poor condition, and repairing and upgrading them is essential to reducing accidents.

Particularly, high-risk areas such as the southwestern highways and Kabul-North route require immediate attention. Proper signage, road markings, and clear traffic signals should be installed to guide drivers and prevent accidents. Regular inspections and maintenance of roads should also be conducted to identify and eliminate hazards such as roadside explosions.

Alongside infrastructure improvements, stronger enforcement of traffic laws is necessary. Law enforcement agencies need to increase their presence on major highways, especially in accident-prone areas. More frequent traffic checkpoints and vehicle inspections should be implemented to ensure that drivers follow the law. Speeding, illegal overtaking, and driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs are among the leading causes of accidents, and stricter enforcement can help deter such behaviors.

The regulation of commercial vehicles, particularly passenger buses, should also be strengthened. These vehicles should be subject to regular safety inspections to ensure that they are in good working condition and operated by qualified drivers. Holding bus companies accountable for the safety of their vehicles and drivers will help reduce accidents caused by unsafe practices.

Public awareness campaigns are another crucial aspect of addressing the traffic accident crisis. The government and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) should collaborate on national campaigns that educate drivers on the dangers of reckless driving, speeding, and distracted driving. These campaigns should target all road users, including pedestrians and cyclists, to promote safe road practices. The importance of not using mobile phones while driving and following speed limits should be emphasized in these campaigns. Media outlets such as television, radio, and social media can play a significant role in reaching a wide audience with these safety messages. In addition to public campaigns, road safety education should be incorporated into school curricula. Teaching children safe road practices at an early age can instill a sense of responsibility and awareness that they carry into adulthood. Moreover, driver training programs should be established to educate current drivers on the importance of obeying traffic laws and practicing safe driving techniques. These programs should focus on preventing dangerous behaviors, such as speeding and illegal overtaking, while also educating drivers about the consequences of impaired driving. Another important aspect of the solution lies in improving vehicle safety standards and monitoring their condition. Afghanistan lacks a rigorous vehicle inspection process, which results in unsafe vehicles being allowed on the road.

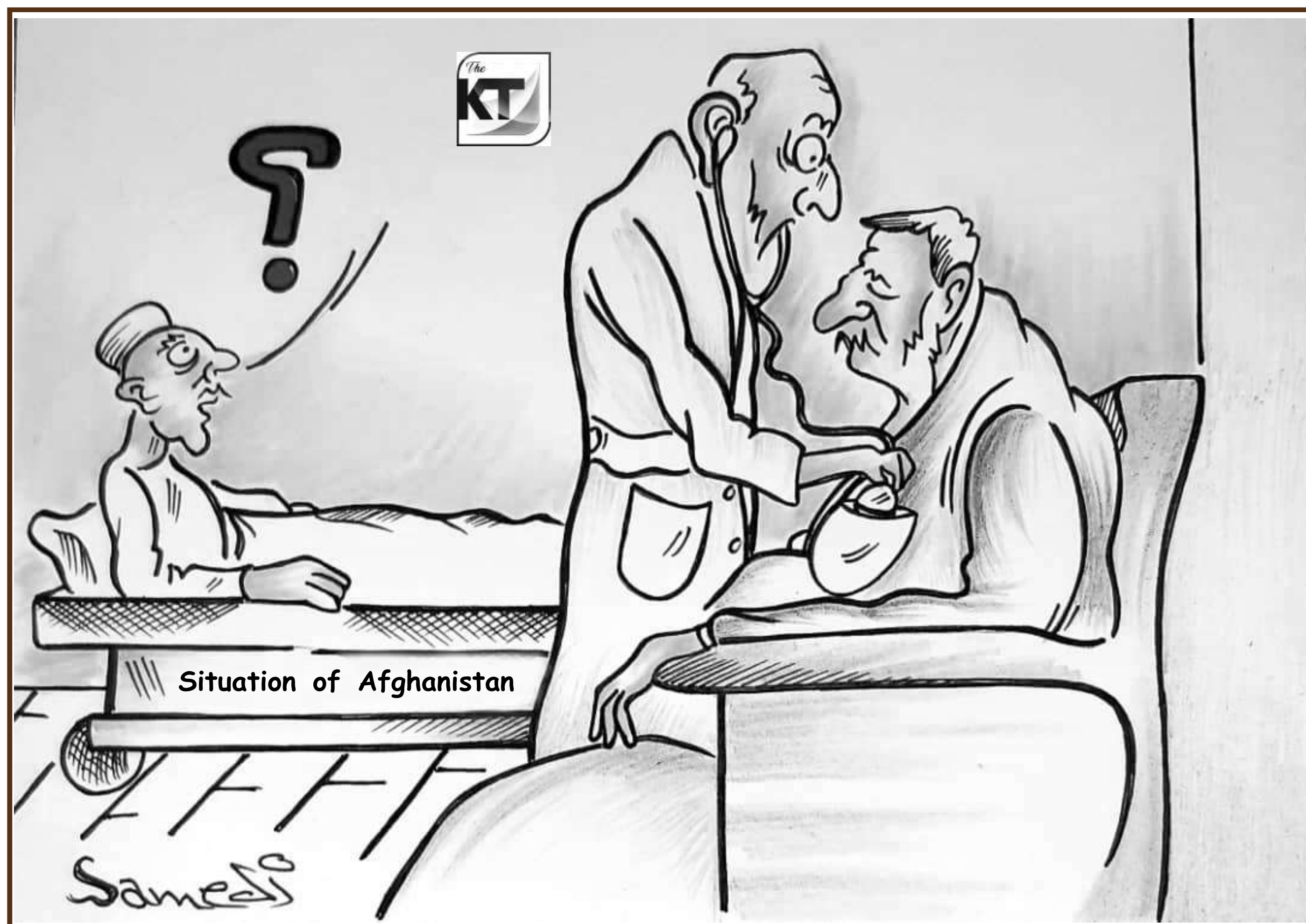
A more stringent vehicle inspection system should be introduced to ensure that all vehicles meet safety standards before being allowed to operate. This includes inspecting commercial vehicles, especially buses and trucks, for roadworthiness. Commercial vehicle drivers should also be required to attend training programs that emphasize safe driving practices.

In addition, technology can be leveraged to enhance road safety. The installation of traffic cameras and speed detectors on major highways can help identify violators and deter dangerous driving behavior. These technologies can also provide valuable data to improve traffic management. The implementation of intelligent traffic systems, including digital road signs and automated traffic lights, can help manage traffic flow and reduce congestion, particularly in high-traffic areas.

Finally, Afghanistan's legal system needs strengthening to ensure that traffic accidents are properly investigated and prosecuted. Many accident cases are settled informally through local assemblies or community elders, which often results in offenders escaping accountability. The legal system should be reformed to handle these cases in a more formal and efficient manner, ensuring that those responsible for traffic accidents are held accountable. This will encourage safer driving behaviors and promote justice for the victims of these accidents.

In conclusion, reducing traffic accidents in Afghanistan requires a comprehensive and multi-faceted approach. This includes improving road infrastructure, enforcing traffic laws, raising public awareness, enhancing vehicle safety standards, and strengthening the legal system. Only through a collaborative effort from the government, law enforcement agencies, local communities, and the public can Afghanistan create safer roads and reduce the number of traffic accidents in the future.

Sayed Asef Fekrat



Need for proper markets for country's agricultural products

In many countries, and every less developed country, agriculture is the biggest single industry. In less developed countries, the development of agriculture and farm markets are at the heart of the economic growth process.



Farm markets are the backbone of agricultural communities as they provide farmers with opportunities to sell their products directly to consumers, give them an opportunity to meet other local farmers who might be interested in selling their products and create demand for them in local communities.

Afghanistan is an agricultural country, and we see that the country's climate, location and four seasons are completely suitable for all kinds of trees, forests, vegetables and fruits. Besides, the country's fertile lands, water resources, and diverse climate conditions provide the ground to stand among the world's leading agricultural countries, but unfortunately, our agriculture still remains at a very primitive level, and farmers cannot find a market for their products, which is why most Afghans are struggling with poverty and deprivation.

The non-industrial form of agriculture is a significant part of Afghanistan's economic problems. When agricultural products are produced in a substandard manner, the quality of the products is low, and they cannot compete in the international market.

In addition, the weak system of storage, processing, and delivery of products to the market has caused many farmers to face losses.

As for the time being, we buy wheat, flour, rice, corn and others at high prices from Russia and Kazakhstan, and on the other hand, our onions, tomatoes, cucumbers, and several types of fresh fruits rot and perish at foreign ports due to lack of proper management and farm markets.

Every year, the efforts of our poor farmers go to waste, and they suffer financial losses.

The role of the farm markets in the growth and development of agricultural business is very effective, as the profit of farmers is naturally dependent on the market, so if their product is sold at a good price, they will spend more in the next season, and if they make a loss, they will leave their land fallow and turn to other employment.

In order for our agriculture to be industrialized, Afghan farmers should be provided with modern machineries so that they can take advantage of modern technology and equipment for water management, increased productivity and seasonal changes along with adapting to new technology and equipment.

In addition to promoting industries and providing modern machineries and equipment to Afghan farmers, they should be also provided with technical and modern trainings. On the other hand, efforts should be made to find markets for their products at national and international level and this all should be managed in a proper way.

The government, the private sector and our farmers should work together towards management and finding farm markets for the country's agricultural products.

The government should also attract investment to the country's agriculture sector as investments for the development of agriculture, implementation of international standards and equal facilities for farmers are the steps for Afghanistan to get rid of poverty and open new ways of economic growth.

Fida Mohammad

Public support guarantees country's development

Any nation standing by its government achieves progress, stability, and prosperity. Most of the developed countries of the world have achieved progress by standing their governments, national unity, and joint efforts.

On the contrary, nations that do not support their governments do face with challenges and always experience instability, conflict, and backwardness. Afghanistan, which had suffered from continued wars and violence, has now achieved stability following the re-establishment of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan (IEA) in August 2021.

The wars and insecurity that had destroyed our country and stopped it from stepping towards progress have ended, and Afghans today enjoy peace and stability in each corner of the country.

This stability is a great blessing from Almighty Allah, and maintaining this stability is the shared responsibility of all of us. For this, it is essential that the Afghan nation supports its government and does not allow the country to once again descend into misery.

The Islamic Emirate's responsibility is also to pay attention to the legitimate demands of the people, to formulate policies that lead to justice, social welfare, and economic growth.

The government and the nation are two sides of the same coin. If the nation supports the government, the government will address the needs of the nation, and if the government finds solutions to the nation's problems, the nation will support it even more.

This mutual trust is the foundation that can lead Afghanistan towards lasting stability and progress.

Religious values, national unity, economic development, justice, and social well-being are the elements that are essential for a strong Afghanistan. If both the government and the people jointly protect these principles, then the country will be a successful example of stability and progress not only for the region but for the entire world. The Afghan nation must remain cooperative for a better future, and the Islamic Emirate should take steps for the well-being of the nation in which all Afghans can see themselves. To summarize, the support of the people is the guarantee of the survival, stability and success of any government. If we remain united, act in the light of Islamic values and national interests, and work to strengthen our government, then our country will take the path of prosperity, progress and honor. This is our shared responsibility and history will remember the names of those who sincerely strive for the development of their country.

Mukhtar Safi

Afghanistan-regional trade: From closed doors to new opportunities

The country's agricultural products exports are a major asset for Afghanistan, and finding markets for the country's agricultural products will strengthen the country's economic situation.



Developing regional trade can open up new markets for our agricultural products, which will help farmers sell their products and boost Afghanistan's agricultural sector.

Developing appropriate trade relations and finding new markets will boost Afghanistan's trade. This will be an effective step towards increasing economic cooperation and regional trade.

Attracting investment is also vital for the development of regional trade.

To attract investment, legal reforms, simplifying the tax system, improving investment conditions, and increasing business facilitation are necessary. Afghanistan's economic policy needs to create a favorable environment for international investors to invest in business sectors.

This investment in the country's business sector will not only boost Afghanistan's economy but also create new opportunities for the country's productivity. The Islamic Emirate must take serious measures to improve the investment conditions for expanding businesses in the country.

If Afghanistan expands trade relations with its neighboring countries, it opens up huge opportunities for increased exports, investment attraction, and economic development.

Developing Afghanistan's regional trade is a vital need for strengthening the country's economic situation, reduction in unemployment, increasing trade facilitation and agricultural production, and attracting investment. Moreover, regional trade will not only be an important path for Afghanistan's economic development, but also a great opportunity for regional economic cooperation, which will change Afghanistan to an important economic hub for international investors. The Islamic Emirate should further focus on the expansion of regional trade, as it provides an opportunity for improved economic cooperation not only for Afghanistan, but also for all countries in the region.

Afghanistan is geographically located in a region that has access to the densely populated markets of South Asia in the east, the energy-rich countries of Central Asia in the north, and the global markets in the west through major routes and corridors.

By taking advantage of this location, Afghanistan can expand its trade relations with its neighboring countries, which are essential for economic development and expansion of regional cooperation.

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce of the Islamic Emirate has recently reported that with increasing trade between Afghanistan and countries in the region, the country's economy has shown significant improvement.

Based on the ministry's report, Afghanistan's total trade in 2024 is expected to exceed $12 billion. Trade between Afghanistan and countries in the region has improved over time, particularly the country's exports, crucial for the national economy, has increased by more than 100 percent.

Afghanistan's trade volume did not exceed $850 million annually in the past, but after the return of the Islamic Emirate, exports surged to $2 billion. In 2024, Afghanistan's total trade reached $12.42 billion, with exports at $1.803 billion and imports at $10.619 billion. In comparison, in 2023, Afghanistan's exports were $1.884 billion, and imports were $7.71 billion. This shows a 4% decrease in exports and a 38% increase in imports in 2024 compared to the previous year.

Over the course of three years, efforts have been made in establishing economic and trade corridors between Afghanistan and regional countries. The Ministry of Public Works of the Islamic Emirate has recently reported that trade via railways has increased in the past one year, compared to the previous year. According to the country's Ministry of Public Works, Afghanistan has direct trade with Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and Iran through the ports of Hairatan, Aqina, Torghundi, and Khaf-Herat, and Afghanistan's exports to other countries via rail have also increased in the past one year.

With the re-establishment of the Islamic Emirate and the improvement of the overall security situation across Afghanistan, new trade and economic corridors have been established between Afghanistan and regional countries as economic and trade relations between Afghanistan and all countries in the region are expanding by passing each day.

There are hopes that trade will further expand between regional countries as Afghanistan is changing to an economic and trade hub, considering to its position in the region.

The end

Sayed Sharif

Role of government in institutionalizing Islamic culture in trade markets

Part III

In the previous parts of this article, we stated that the state is responsible for taking effective steps toward institutionalizing Islamic culture in Afghanistan's financial markets. This initiative not only leads to the creation of a healthy and honest marketplace but also significantly contributes to economic development.

In Islamic history, we find exemplary models of this practice among the companions of the Prophet and the early Muslims, as well as in the governance of the caliphs who succeeded them. One of the most prominent examples was the healthy financial market during the time of the Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him) and the Rightly Guided Caliphs.

The caliphate of Umar ibn Khattab (may Allah be pleased with him) was one of the most prosperous periods for trade in the Muslim community.

During his reign, fairness, contentment, justice, good character, and mutual trust flourished.

This just caliph of Islam maintained strict oversight over economic and commercial activities and implemented measures to ensure fairness and integrity in markets.

Today, it is essential for every Muslim leader to adopt similar measures to purify market systems and to implement these guidelines correctly in society.

We aim to examine the precise mechanisms of this second caliph's governance so that readers can gain a clear understanding and grasp the objective more effectively. First and foremost, the application of Islamic principles in both jurisprudential and ideological aspects acted as a deterrent for merchants, guiding them away from greed-driven traits toward a more faithful and moral approach.



Islam views life as transient and spiritually significant, encouraging its followers to strive for eternal life in the hereafter, which is achievable only through seeking Allah's pleasure.

A true believer perceives this world as a bridge to paradise and align their daily affairs with spiritual values and the pursuit of lawful sustenance. Furthermore, profound concepts such as divine decree, sustenance, contentment, and good character help steer society away from materialistic greed toward an otherworldly and faith-centered mindset.

Umar ibn Khattab (may Allah be pleased with him) exercised strict supervision over market prices to prevent price inflation or underpricing. He deployed officials and inspectors to regulate prices and took action against unjustified price hikes.

In cases of violations, he imposed fines or even punishments. This approach ensured that the market remained fair and transparent.

Additionally, he placed great emphasis on ethical principles in commerce.

One of his most effective measures was promoting awareness of these principles, which he frequently addressed in his sermons.

He encouraged traders and merchants to adhere to honesty, trustworthiness, and fairness in transactions.

Moreover, anyone who deviated from Islamic business ethics and commercial morality was expelled from the marketplace.

During this period, trade was conducted based on honesty and mutual trust.

Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) also took a firm stand against usury (riba), which is strictly prohibited in Islam. He enforced its prohibition in Islamic markets, ensuring that financial transactions remained free from corruption.

His actions helped establish an economic system based on justice.

Additionally, he urged Muslims to avoid transactions that closely resembled usury, ensuring they steered clear of any dubious financial dealings.

Furthermore, he personally took the initiatives to support the poor and the needy. He structured the marketplace in such a way that those in need could obtain essential goods at reasonable prices. He also prevented any form of economic exploitation.

During times of crisis and hardship, the prices of essential commodities were significantly reduced to make them more affordable. No one was allowed to engage in deceit, fraud, trickery, injustice, or disrespect in Islamic markets. As a result, trust among traders and merchants steadily increased.

Firooz Ahmad Ebrahimi

The KT KABUL TIMES DAILY
Dalwa 16-1403 Tuesday 04 February 2025 INo: 266-Vol: LXII

USD	GBP	INR	PKR	EUR	IRR	AED
01	01	1000	1000	01	1000	01
AFN	AFN	AFN	AFN	AFN	AFN	AFN
73.50	91.09	848	253	76.16	01.33	20.01

SPORTS

Full-contact martial arts competitions held in Jawzjan

A one-day full-contact martial arts competition was held in Sheberghan, the capital of Jawzjan province, organized by the provincial branch of the Full-Contact Martial Arts Federation in collaboration with the Directorate of Physical Education and Sports. The event featured 70 athletes competing in different age categories, including teenagers, youth, and adults. The matches were conducted in a single-fight format, where 35 athletes emerged victorious by defeating their opponents and securing championship titles in their respective categories.

The primary objective of organizing this competition was to promote and develop martial arts among young athletes and to encourage the growth of the sport in the province.

The event provided a platform for martial artists to showcase their skills, compete at a professional level, and gain valuable experience. At the conclusion of the tournament, the top-performing athletes were honored with special prizes in recognition of their achievements. The organizers emphasized the importance of such competitions in fostering discipline, physical fitness, and sportsmanship among the youth.

Full-contact martial arts have been gaining popularity in Afghanistan, with an increasing number of young athletes participating in regional and national competitions.

Events like this contribute to the overall development of sports in the country and provide opportunities for talented athletes to advance in their careers.

The Kabul Times

Two-day seminar for mountaineering athletes kicks off in Kabul

A two-day seminar for mountaineering athletes has begun in Kabul, organized by the Mountaineering Federation under the General Directorate of the National Olympic Committee, Physical Education, and Sports. The seminar is being held in the conference hall of the National Olympic Committee and is attended by 50 athletes from various provinces, including Kabul, Herat, Balkh, Kandahar, Ghazni, Baghlan, Ghor, and Bamyan. The main objective of this seminar is to provide technical and professional training to the participants, enhancing their skills and knowledge in mountaineering. Experts will deliver sessions on key aspects of the sport, ensuring that athletes are well-prepared for upcoming competitions and training camps. This initiative is particularly focused on preparing athletes for the upcoming national selection competitions and training camp, which are scheduled to take place on February 12 in Hassan Dara village, Farza district of Kabul province. The selection event will play a crucial role in identifying top athletes who will represent Afghanistan in future national and international mountaineering competitions.

The Mountaineering Federation has emphasized the importance of such training programs in fostering professional development among athletes and promoting the sport across Afghanistan. Participants have expressed enthusiasm for the opportunity to refine their skills and gain valuable insights into advanced mountaineering techniques. As mountaineering continues to grow in popularity in Afghanistan, such initiatives are expected to encourage more athletes to participate and strengthen the country's presence in the sport at regional and international levels.

The Kabul Times

Arsenal thrashes Manchester City 5-1 to stay in Premier League

In a thrilling Premier League encounter during Match week 24, Arsenal delivered a commanding performance, securing a remarkable 5-1 victory over Manchester City. The Gunners dominated the game, showcasing their attacking prowess and tactical superiority to claim an essential three points.

From the outset, Arsenal displayed confidence and aggression, putting pressure on City's defense and capitalizing on scoring opportunities. Their clinical finishing and solid teamwork proved too much for Pep Guardiola's side, who struggled to contain the relentless attacks. Despite City's attempts to regain control, Arsenal remained dominant throughout the match, sealing a well-deserved triumph.

This crucial win solidifies Arsenal's position in the league standings, keeping them in second place with 50 points. They remain in pursuit of the Premier League title, narrowing the gap behind Liverpool, who currently lead the table with 56 points. The victory also boosts Arsenal's confidence as they continue their campaign with high hopes of overtaking their rivals.

On the other hand, Manchester City, known for their attacking strength and strategic gameplay, faced an unexpected setback. The heavy defeat marks a challenging moment for the reigning champions, who will now need to regroup and refocus as they look to bounce back in the upcoming fixtures. As the season progresses, the Premier League title race remains intense, with Arsenal proving to be a formidable contender. With crucial matches ahead, the Gunners will aim to maintain their winning momentum and keep the pressure on Liverpool in their quest for league glory. **The Kabul Times**

Farahi chairs Book Evaluation Commission meeting

KABUL: The meeting of the Book Evaluation Commission was held with the Deputy Publications Minister of Information and Culture, Mawlavi Hayatullah Muhajer Farahi, on the chair, evaluating a number of books, the ministry said in a statement Monday.

Muhajer Farahi talked about the achievements and decisions of the previous meeting and added that books that do not conflict with the principles of Sharia and national values are allowed to be published, according to the statement.

The members of the commission shared their views on a number of books, the statement said, adding that necessary decisions were made regarding both published books and those that have not yet been printed.

Also, at the end of the meeting, several books were distributed to the commission's members, and they were instructed to evaluate and share their findings at the next meeting.

The Kabul Times

ACCI holds press conference for national currency's stability

ACCI
Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce & Investment
اتاق تجارت و سرمایه گذاری افغانستان
د افغانستان د سوداګرۍ او پانګونې اتاق

KABUL: The Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce and Investment (ACCI) held a press conference in support of Da Afghanistan Bank's efforts to maintain the stability of the value of the Afghani currency, ACCI said in a statement Monday.

The conference was attended by the representatives of Da Afghanistan Bank, the union of money changers, and unions of the trade sector, the statement said.

Addressing the conference, Sediqullah Khalid, First Vice President of Da Afghanistan Bank, said that the bank has taken a series of necessary measures for the stability of the value of the Afghan currency and the strength of the country's economic sector.

"The Afghani currency is the national identity of our country, and compatriots, especially businessmen, should use Afghani currency in their business transactions," he said, as quoted by the statement.

The Kabul Times

Victims of Philadelphia air ambulance crash identified by jet company

Six people, including a mother and her daughter, who were killed in a small plane crash in Philadelphia have been identified by the company operating the medical transport jet.

A seventh victim, who was not named, was on the ground at the time of the crash.

Philadelphia mayor Cherelle Parker announced on Sunday that the injury count had gone up to 22, with five people still in hospital and three of those in critical condition.

The cause of the crash is not yet known, but investigators recovered the aircraft's black box on Sunday, the National Transport Safety Board said in a statement obtained by CBS, the BBC's US news partner.

A spokesman for Jet Rescue Air Ambulance disclosed the identity of victims to CBS. All were Mexican citizens, including the child onboard who was traveling to receive medical treatment.

The spokesman identified the victims as Captain Alan Alejandro Montoya Perales, co-pilot Josue de Jesus Juarez Juarez, Doctor Raul Meza Arredondo, Rodrigo Lopez Padilla, Valentina Guzman Murillo, and Lizeth Murillo Ozuna.

The crash on Friday happened just blocks from the Roosevelt Mall, a three-storey shopping centre in a densely populated part of Philadelphia, the fifth biggest city in the US.

The area is filled with terraced housing and shops. Many properties lost power after the crash.

Authorities were still assessing the extent of the damage to the residential area.

While they were not sure how many individuals had been displaced, city officials confirmed that 11 properties sustained significant damage. **bbc**

As Mexico and Canada hit back, China pulls punches on Trump's tariffs

Taipei, Taiwan – Within hours of United States President Donald Trump announcing tariffs on China, Canada and Mexico over the weekend, his Canadian and Mexican counterparts hit back with their own levies on US goods.

The response from China, Washington's biggest strategic rival, was notably more restrained.

China's Ministry of Commerce did not announce specific tariffs in its response on Sunday, stating only that it would take "corresponding countermeasures to firmly safeguard its rights and interests".

The ministry also said it would challenge the tariffs at the World Trade Organization, a largely symbolic measure since its appellate body has been non-functioning since late 2019 due to Washington's refusal to support the appointment of new judges.

Beijing's relatively muted response comes as US-China ties have gotten off to a surprisingly friendly start under Trump's second administration. Asked at the Davos economic forum on January 23 about his first call with Chinese leader Xi Jinping, Trump said he believed the countries would have "a very good relationship".

In a Fox News interview that aired the same day, Trump said he would "rather not" impose tariffs on China and expressed his interest in reaching a deal with Xi. It is "very plausible" that Trump and Xi see an opportunity for a deal, said Julien Chaisse, an expert in international economic law at City University in Hong Kong. "Not necessarily because their broader objectives align but because both operate in a world where political and economic leverage are constantly recalibrated, where tariffs are as much about signalling power as they are about shifting trade balances – and where the broader geopolitical climate often dictates short-term economic moves far more than any conventional trade logic would suggest," Chaisse told Al Jazeera.

"This is particularly relevant given that China has historically always responded to US tariffs with precision rather than broad retaliation, avoiding escalation when possible while still ensuring it does not appear weak."

While Trump's imposition of 25 percent tariffs on Canadian and Mexican goods is a major shock to the system of trade between the three countries – which have been operating under a free trade agreement since the signing of NAFTA in 1994 – China has been grappling with levies on its exports since his first term in office.

Trump's announcement of a 10 percent tariff also fell well short of the 60 percent tariff he had threatened to impose on Chinese goods during his re-election campaign. dded to existing tariffs, the new measures bring the average tariff on Chinese goods from about 20 percent to 30 percent, according to Deborah Elms, head of trade policy at the Hinrich Foundation in Singapore.

aljazeera

Palestinian presidency accuses Israel of 'ethnic cleansing' in West Bank

The office of Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas on Monday denounced an ongoing Israeli military operation in the occupied West Bank, saying it was aimed at "ethnic cleansing" and urging the United States to intervene.

In a statement, spokesman Nabil Abu Rudeineh said the presidency "condemned the occupation authorities' expansion of their comprehensive war on our Palestinian people in the West Bank to implement their plans aimed at displacing citizens and ethnic cleansing." "We demand the intervention of the US administration before it is too late, to stop the ongoing Israeli aggression against our people and our land," Abu Rudeineh told the Palestinian official news agency WAFA in a statement coinciding with a visit by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to Washington.

The Israeli military launched a major offensive in the West Bank on January 21 aimed at rooting out Palestinian armed groups from the Jenin area, which has long been a hotbed of militancy.

On Sunday, the army said it had killed over 50 "terrorists" both during the operation and advanced aerial strikes beginning a week prior.

Netanyahu is visiting Washington where he is expected to begin talks on a second phase of Israel's truce with Hamas in Gaza on Monday.

The next stage is expected to cover the release of the remaining captives and include discussions on a more permanent end to the war.

Before departing, Netanyahu told reporters he believed "working closely with President Trump, we can redraw it (Middle East's map) even further and for the better." Trump has repeatedly touted a plan to "clean out" Gaza, calling for Palestinians to move to neighboring countries such as Egypt or Jordan. **alarabiya**